HISTORIC SAVANNAH

$3.50

Georgia

Souvenir Guide • 98 Full Natural Color Pictures

The Story of Savannah

A city of charm and beauty, Savannah owes much of its present greatness to the vision, creative planning, and guidance of its astute founders — a debt to the past that the city has repaid by undertaking a large-scale restoration of its valuable historical features.

In 1733, James Edward Oglethorpe, then thirty-seven years old, established the colony of Georgia under a board of twenty-one trustees. The settlement was placed on the Yamacraw Bluff above the Savannah River (from which the city takes its name) fifteen miles from the sea, a fortunate choice of location that has resulted in Savannah's continued commercial growth as a port city, the largest in the Southeast. Today massive cargo vessels replace the graceful sailing ships of the past.

The purpose of the colony, in the eyes of the British Government, was twofold: strengthening the claim of England to the New World, Georgia would stand between the Spanish in Florida and the thriving English colony in Carolina; and here silk and wine would be manufactured so that England would not have to import these products from foreign nations. The mulberry tree, principal food of silkworms, grew well in the Georgia climate.

The 115 colonists had been hand-picked as persons who needed a second chance in life and would work hard to make the most of it. There were a few debtors, a number of England's unemployed, and foreign Protestants who were the subjects of persecution in their homeland. They were good people, industrious and eager to begin a new life.

For the colonists, Oglethorpe laid out a city plan so fine that it has stood as a model to this day: broad streets, lots, and public squares neatly arranged in a perfect pattern. Around the city, he designated the sites of forts to protect its citizens. The trustees' Latin motto, *Non Sibi Sed Allis*, which means "not for self, but for others" was truly the spirit in which Savannah was planned.

The Indians of Georgia were a gentle people who lived well on the bounty of this abundant land, and Oglethorpe easily made friends with their chief and won his trust. As a result, the colonists were able to build their settlement without fear of hostile natives.

On the ourskirts of the settlement, Oglethorpe set aside a ten-acre garden, called the Trustees' Garden, in which mulberry trees and other planting could be tested before being transferred to the individual lots belonging to the colonists. This was the first agricultural experimental station in America.

Soon other colonists came to Savannah from different parts of Europe with the common purpose of seeking the opportunity to live in peace. Jews from Germany and Portugal, Salzburgers from Central Europe, Moravians from Bohemia, and Highland Scots were among those who settled in the Georgia colony.

Oglethorpe did not allow slaves to be kept and the size of individual land grants were small. Later the Georgia colony revoked these two rules, which began the era of large plantations maintained by black slaves.

Georgia joined the other colonies in the Revolutionary War and was occupied by British forces during most of these years.

With Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin in 1793, the economy of Savannah and the other southern states was transformed. Fortunes were made in cotton, and homes of great elegance and beauty were constructed.

During the tragic events of the Civil War, General Sherman's "March to the Sea" left a burned scar of destruction forty miles wide from Atlanta to Savannah. But when he arrived at the beautiful city of Savannah, instead of burning it down, he wired President Lincoln that he was presenting him with the city as a Christmas present; it was then December 22, 1864. The city was peacefully occupied, and Savannah's historic treasures were saved.

In the 1950's, the people of Savannah began to realize that the natural process of decay and the advance of industry were eroding the city's legacy. They must take action if the historic buildings and homes were to survive. The Historic Savannah Foundation, Inc., was formed by a few women who shared the dream of preserving the city's heritage. In 1966, the National Park Service designated a two and one-half square mile area as a Registered National Landmark, one of the largest urban landmarks in the country, consisting of over 1,100 buildings. Of these, more than 900 have been restored.

Photography by L. E. McDade, Robert Glander and Edward Derring.

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The Savannah History Museum

In a restored brick train shed that once resounded to the hiss, chug and clamor of the locomotives and rail cars of the Central of Georgia Line, another sort of transportation is presented — a journey into the past.

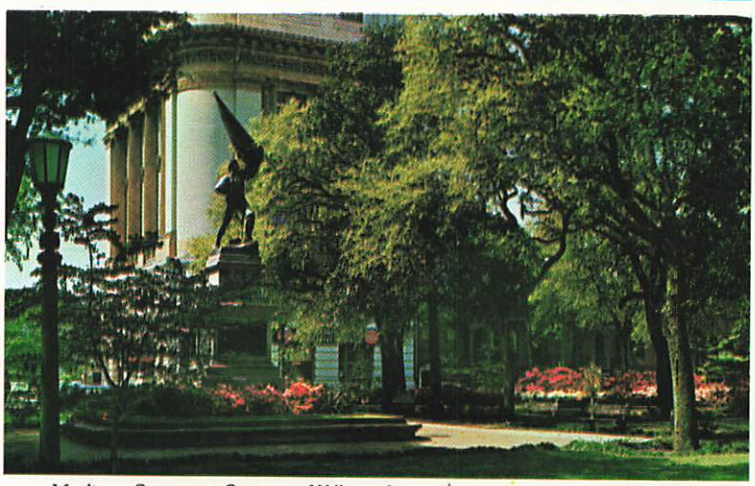
The Savannah History Museum presents 250 years of Savannah's history in a unique historical exhibition that features two major sight-and-sound theater presentations and a museum containing millions of dollars worth of exhibits and artifacts.

The spacious museum hall displays a replica of the cotton gin, a restored Central of Georgia railroad engine, a spectacular model of the S.S. Savannah, as well as other exhibits devoted to Savannah's history.

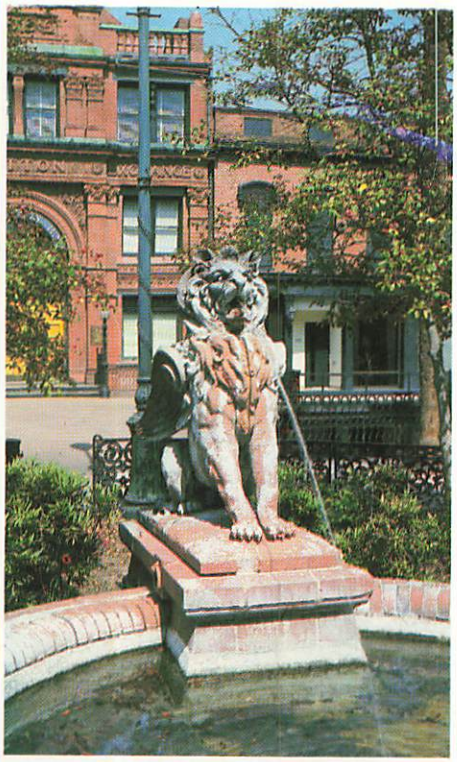
In one theater, film images, stereophonic sound and computer-controlled figures enable visitors to return to 1733, to the landing of James Oglethorpe, the colony's founding father.

And a second theater presents a multi-media recreation of the siege of Savannah during 1779.

A City of Charm and History...



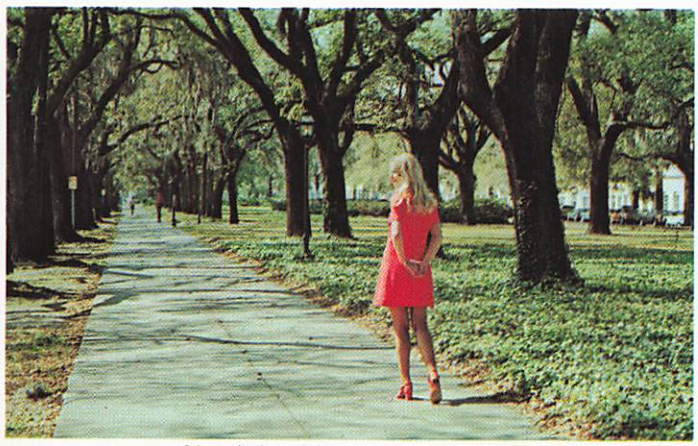
Madison Square — Sergeant William Jasper Monument... who, mortally wounded, rescued the colors of his regiment in the assault on the British lines about the city of Savannah, on October 9, 1776.



Cotton Exchange and Fountain

Monterey Square commemorates the capture of Monterey, Mexico, in 1846 by American Forces under the command of General Zachary Taylor.

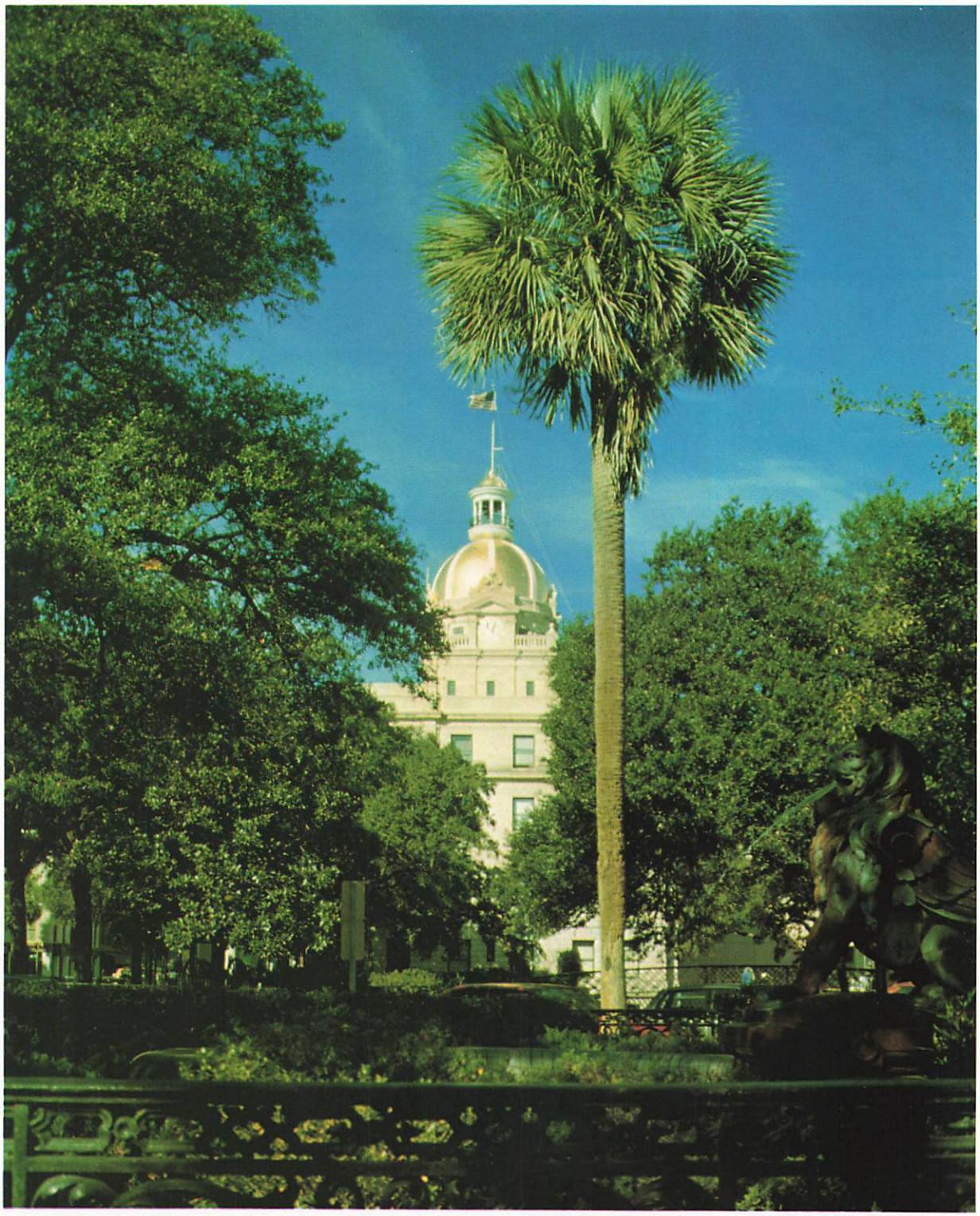
...of squares, landscaped parks, and spiring church steeples



Moss laden oak trees on Bay Street.

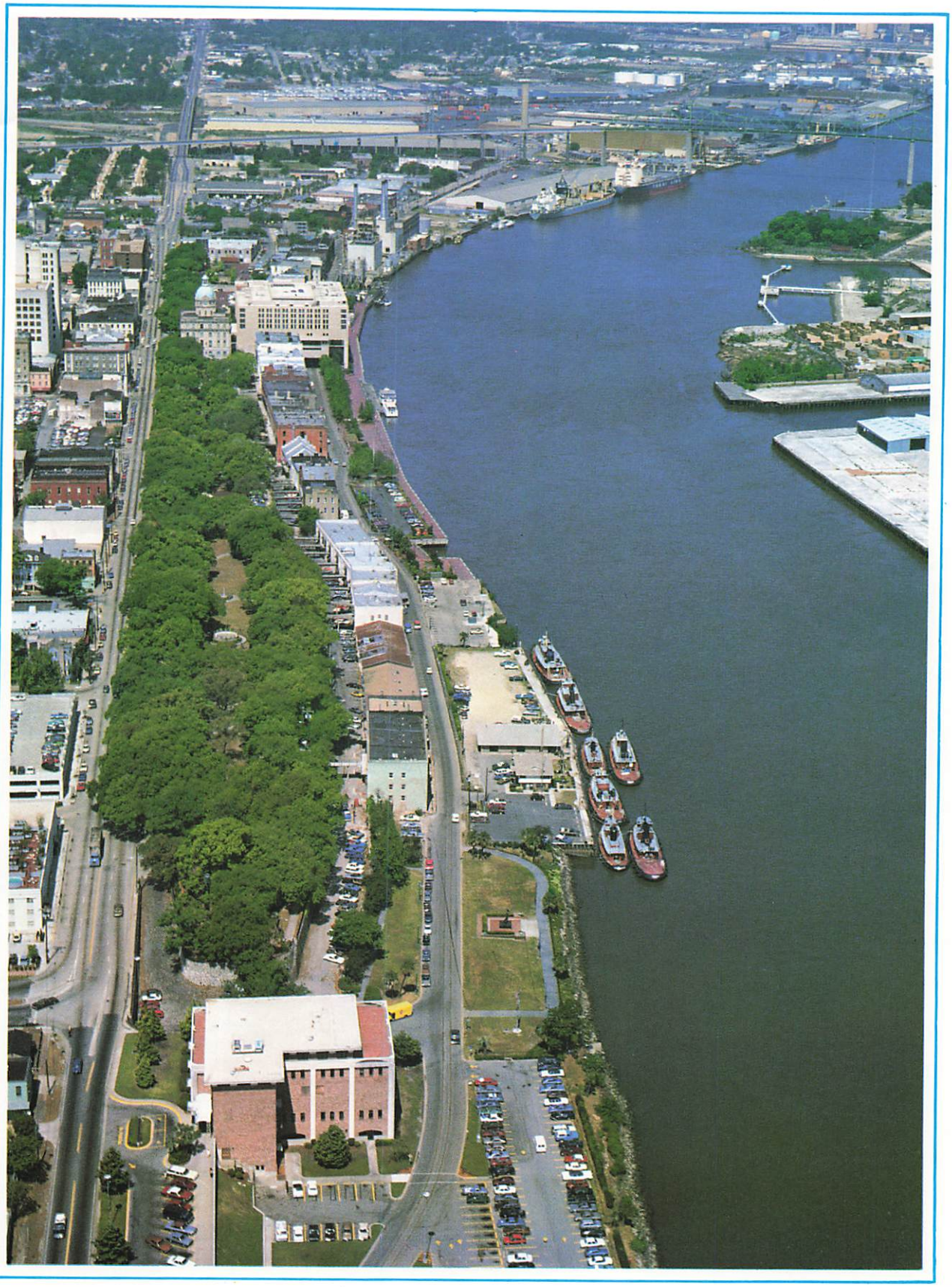
Beautiful Victory Drive, built as a memorial to Savannah's soldiers of WWI, is lined with palms and azaleas

Romantic Spanish Moss and colorful azaleas are combined in this scene of gorgeous beauty.

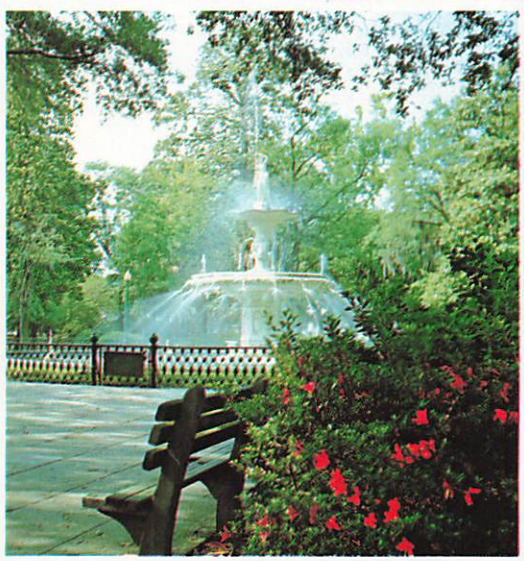


A handsome structure with a four-sided clock tower, the City Hall is located at the foot of Bull Street and on the Savannah River (at the rear of the building). It was built in 1905 on the site of the old City Exchange (1799-1904) from which was launched America's first commercially successful iron steamship, the "John Randolph," in 1834. Inside the City Hall's Council Chamber is a large scale model of the "Savannah," first steamship to cross the Atlantic Ocean (1819).

Aerial View River Front

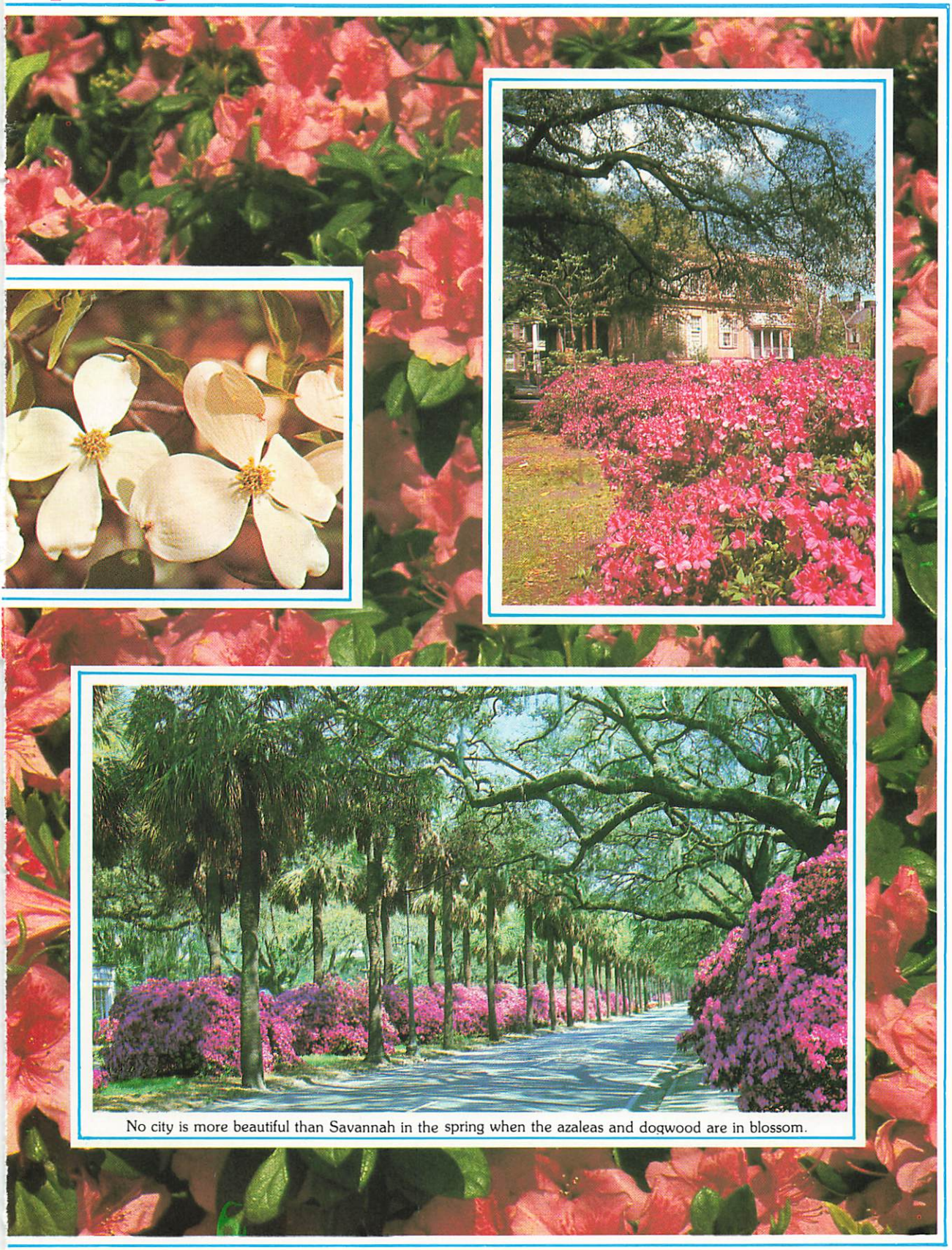


The Beauty of



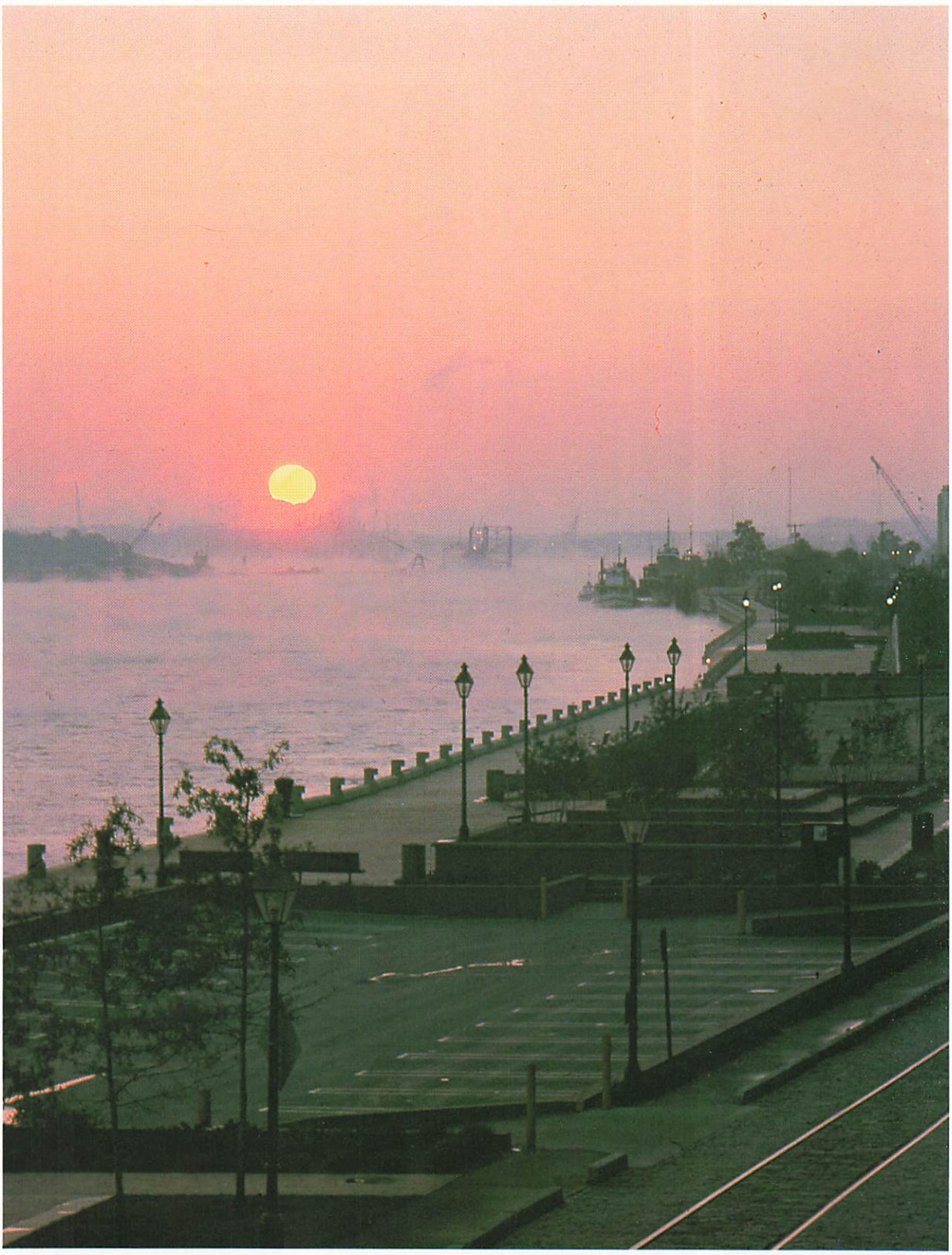
Forsyth Park Fountain, a replica of the famous fountain in the *Place de la Concord* in Paris.

Springtime in Savannah



No city is more beautiful than Savannah in the spring when the azaleas and dogwood are in blossom.

An Historic Waterfront Restored



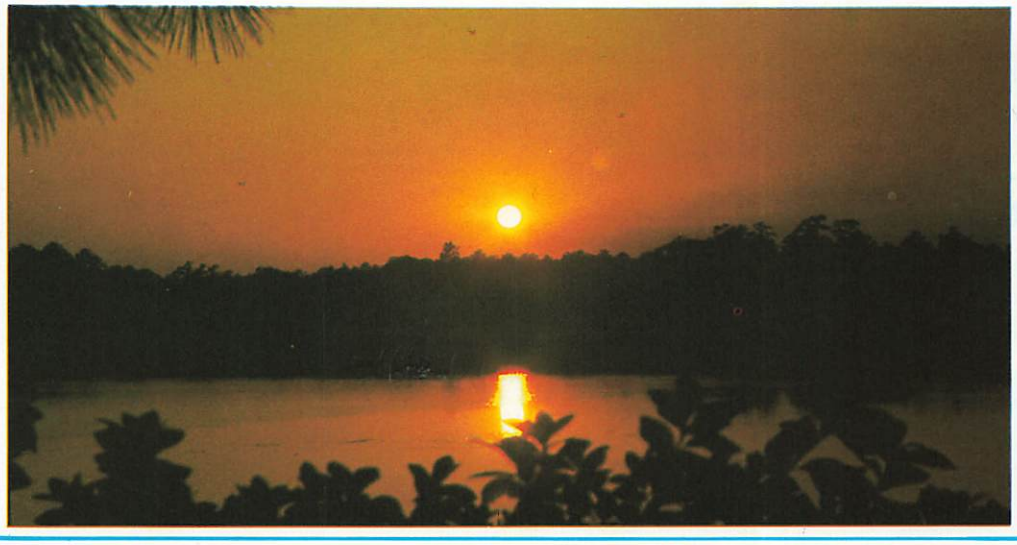
Shown sunrise, the new esplanade along the waterfront is one of the city's most charming walks, a pleasant place for strolling, ship watching, and visiting some of the 55 shops and restaurants housed in restored warehouses from the halcyon days of King Cotton.

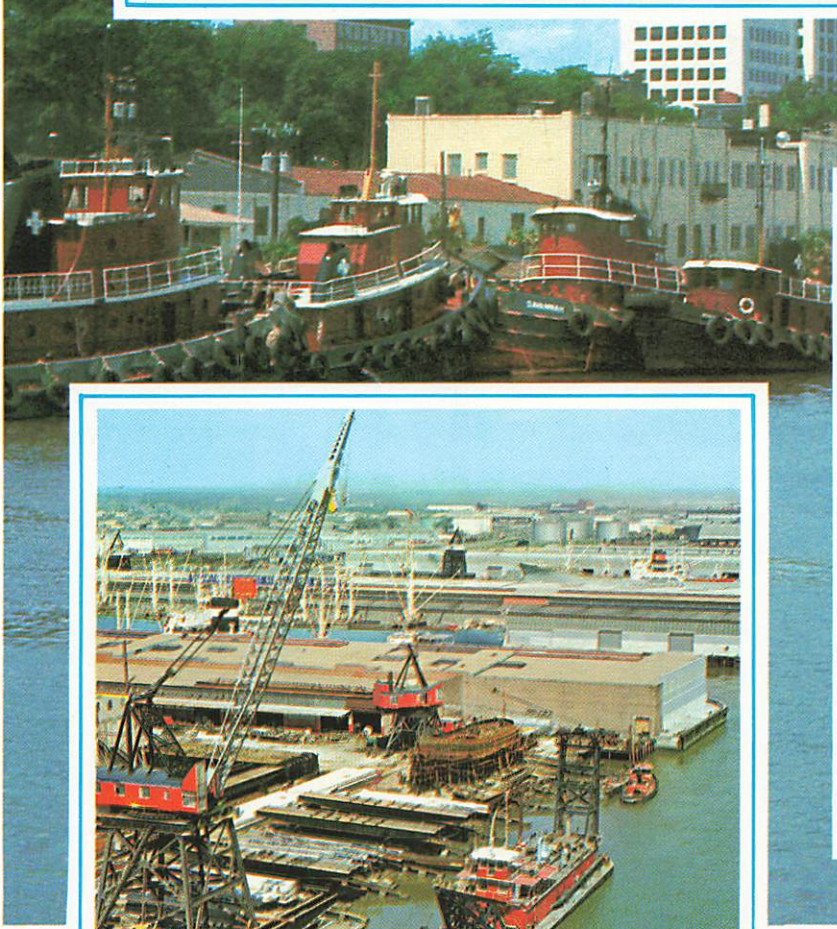
Cruises along the scenic intercoastal waterway are available daily.

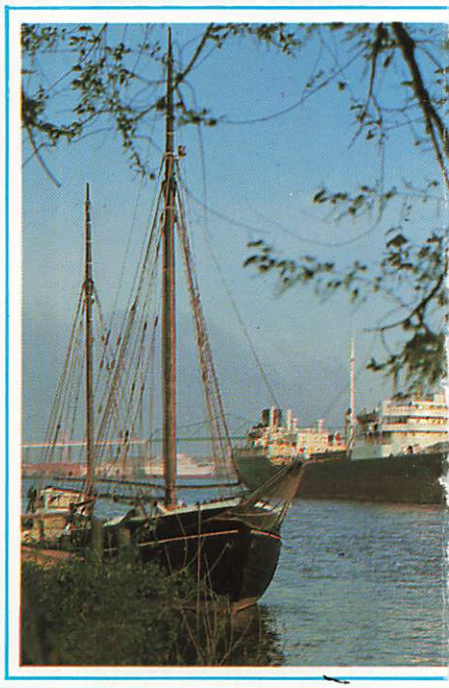
Riverfront Park, part of Savannah's nationally acclaimed 2½-square-mile Historic Landmark District.

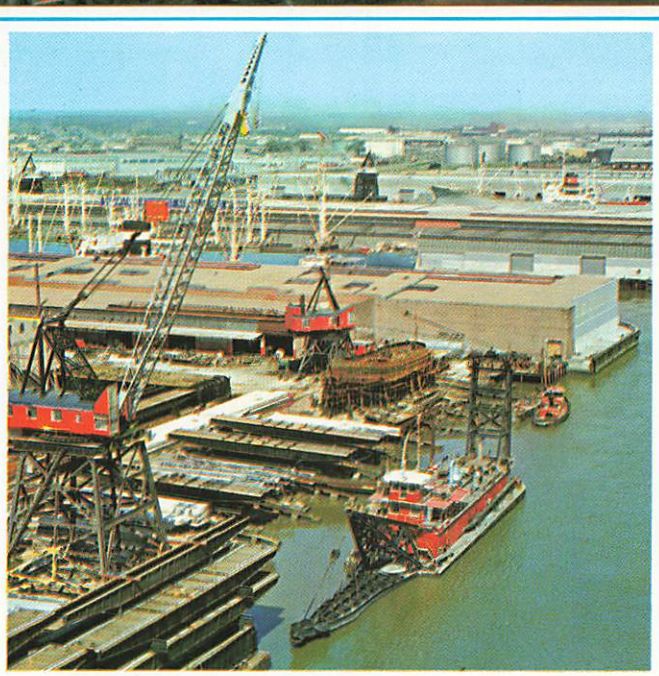
Hyatt Regency Hotel features many quaint shops and fine restaurants.

The Savannah River









"The Waving Girl"—Monument by Felix deWeldon was erected in 1971 by the Altrusa Club of Savannah. It is dedicated to Florence Martus, "Her Immortality stems from her friendly greeting to passing ships..."

Experience the beauty of the John P. Rousakis Plaza while watching the big boats come in and out of the harbor.

Savannah Architecture

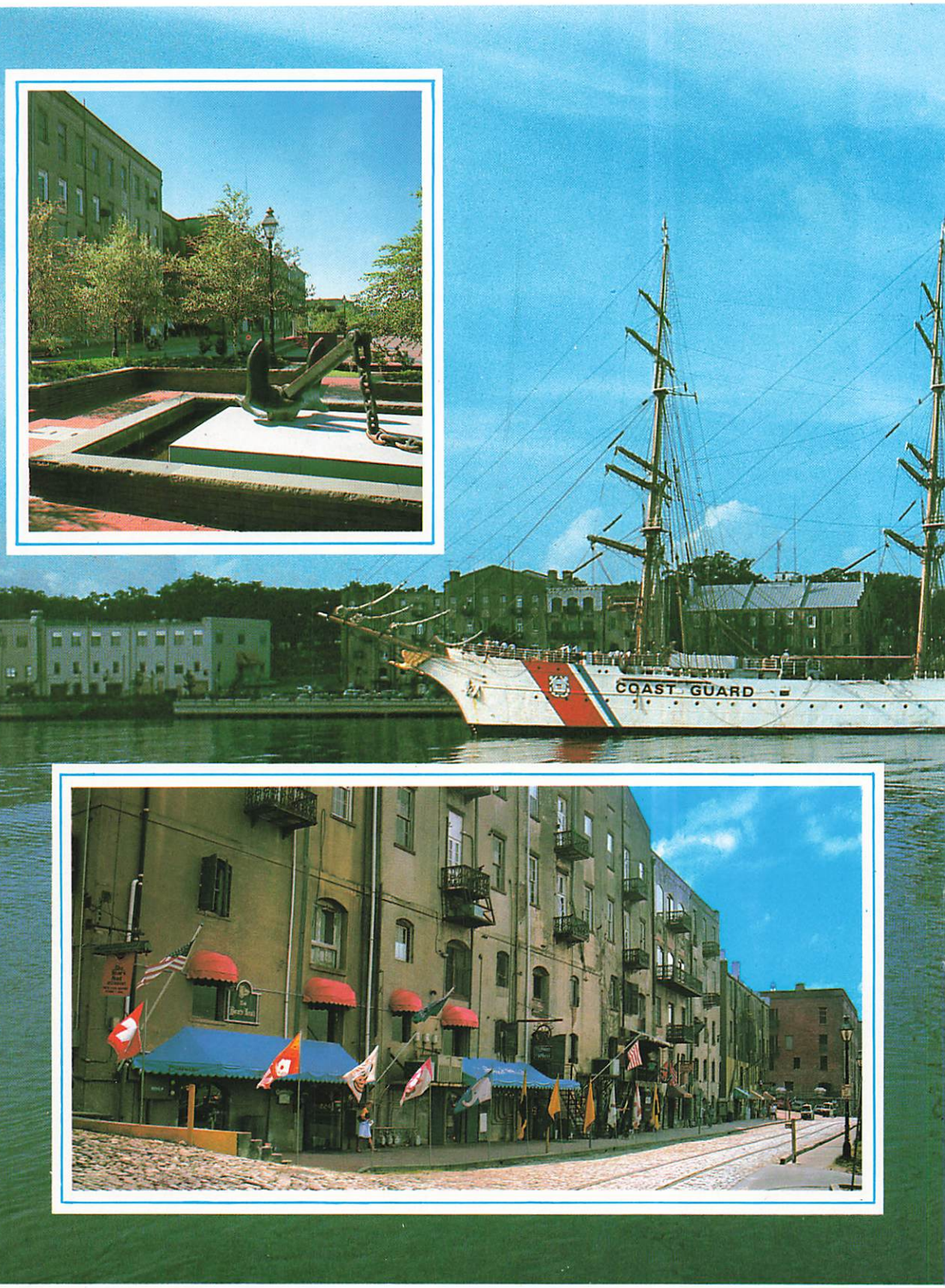
Built in the 1850's, these beautifully styled homes on Gordon Row are representative of the ornate iron work which laces the City of Savannah.

Double House, Monterey Square

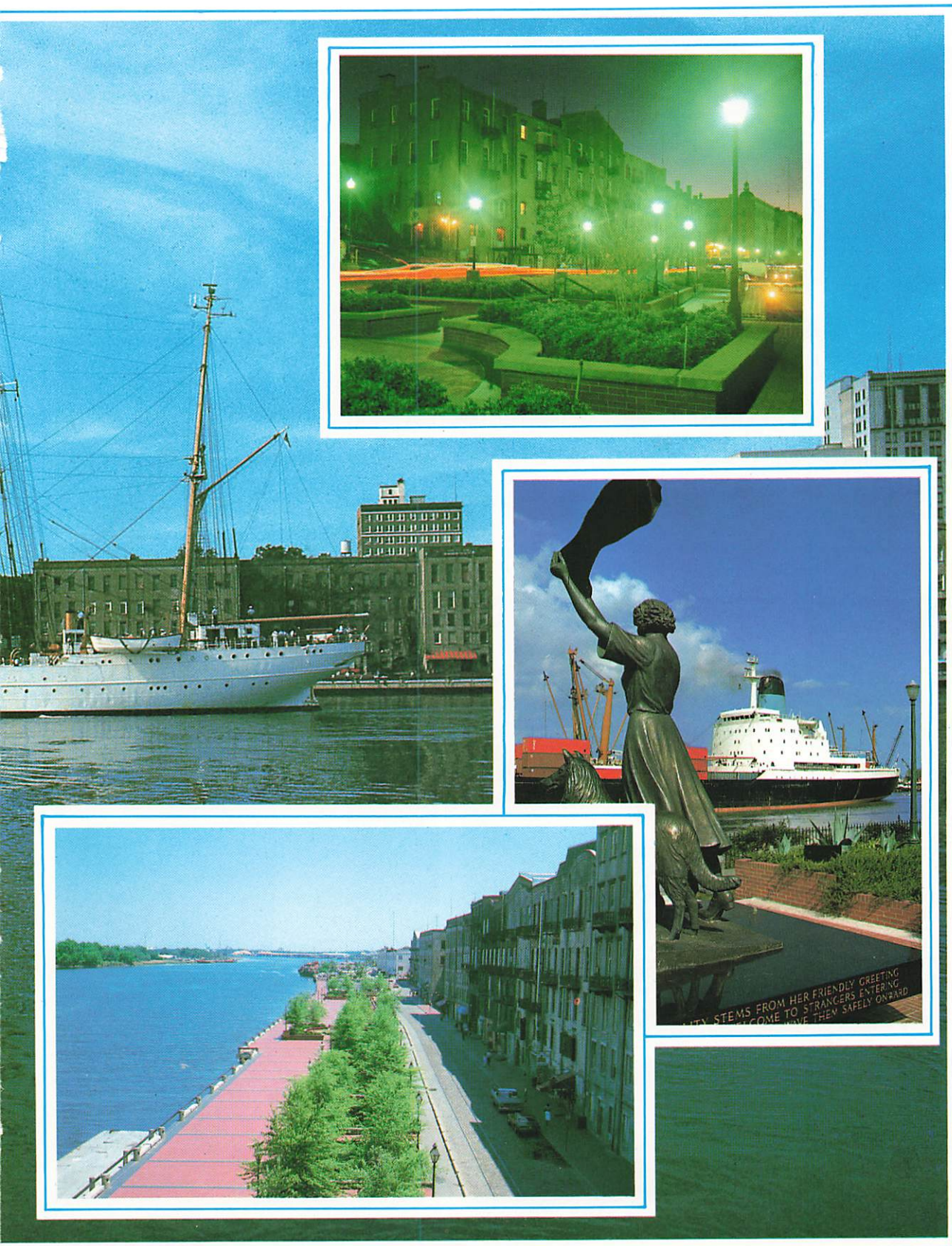
Factors' Walk

Iron and concrete bridgeways link the top of a high bluff to the entrances of Bay Street buildings known as "Factors' Row" since the days when cotton reigned in the Savannah business community. The cobblestones paving the streets beneath were brought to this country a century ago as ballast in the holds of sailing ships. On arrival, the stones were dumped ashore and later used in street construction.

The Port City of Savannah



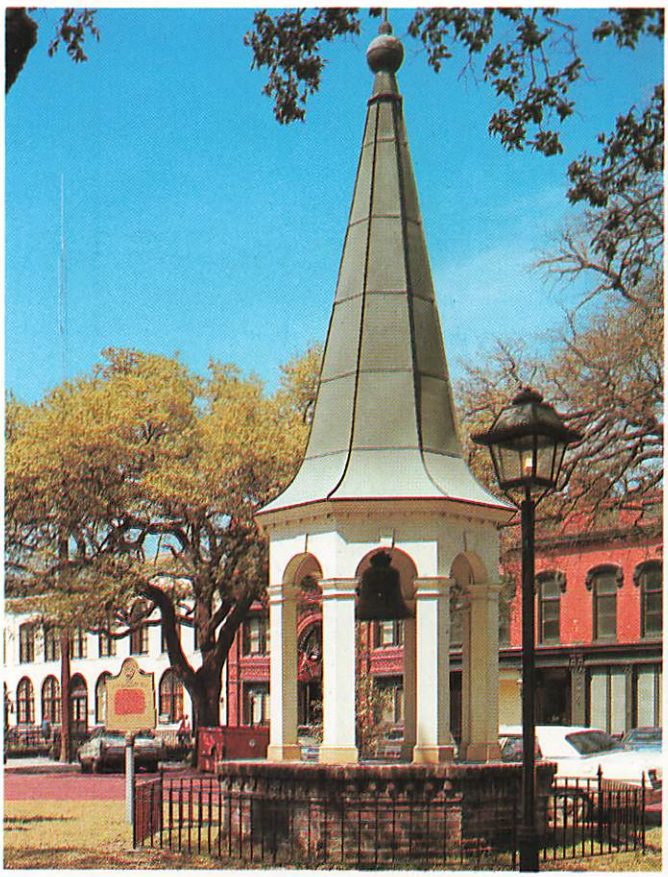
The largest port in the Southeast, Savannah has a landlocked harbor 32½ feet deep and is open to merchant lines from all the principal ports of the world.



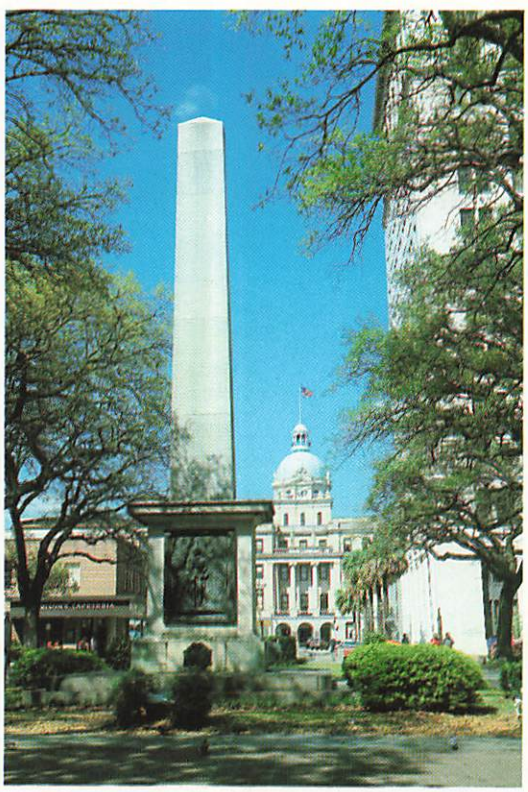
A City Developed from

Chatham Artillery's Washington Guns

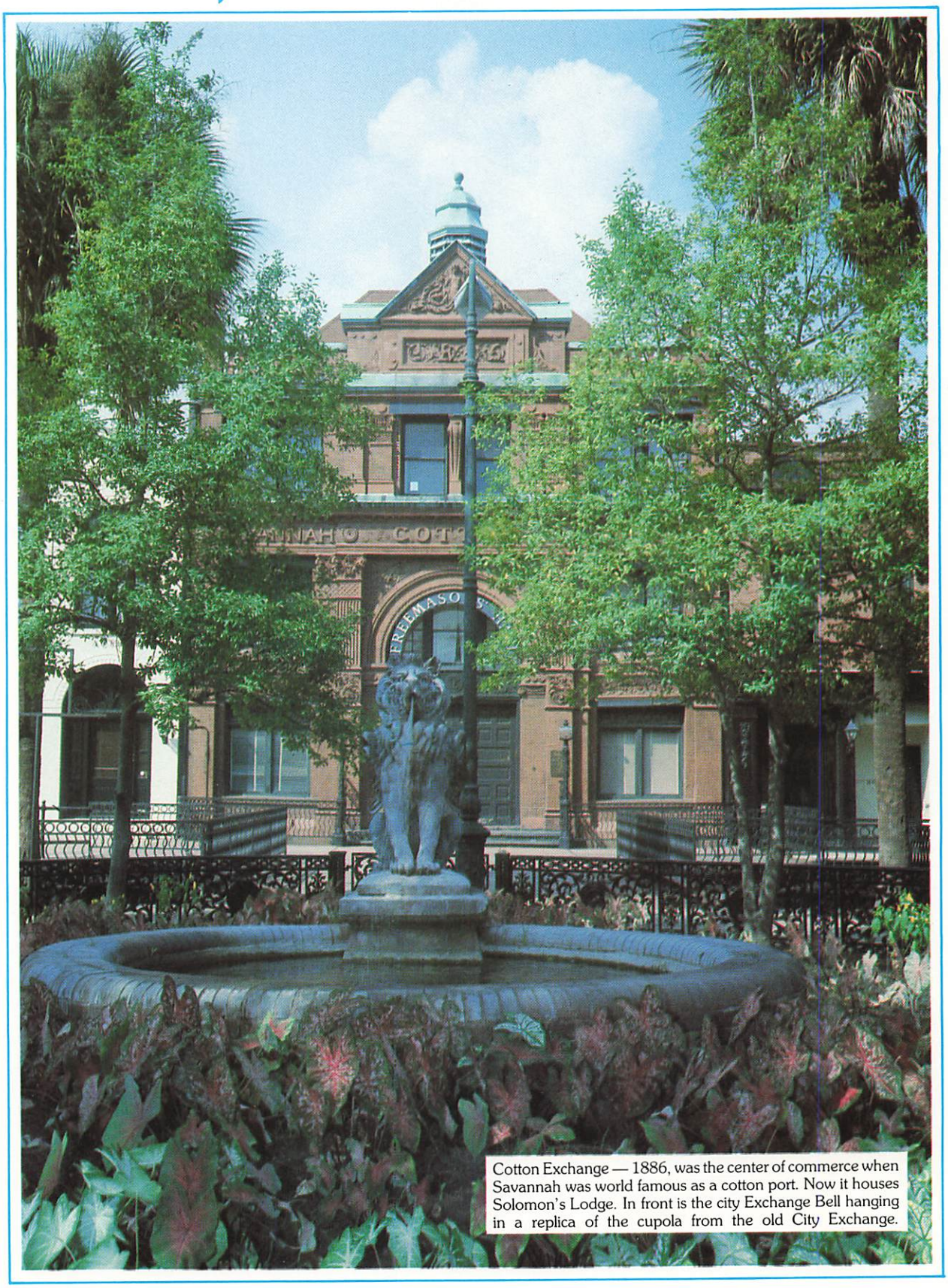
Old City Exchange Bell



Johnson Square



a History of Commerce



Cotton Exchange — 1886, was the center of commerce when Savannah was world famous as a cotton port. Now it houses Solomon's Lodge. In front is the city Exchange Bell hanging in a replica of the cupola from the old City Exchange.

Chippewa Square holds an imposing monument in honor of James Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia. He laid plans for the street lots and beautiful public squares that give Savannah the charm we still find today.

Historic City Squares

Reynolds Square

Warren Square

Tomo-Chi Chi Wright Square

Johnson Square

Monterey Square

Historic Homesites

Springtime along Washington Ave. is abundant with colorful flowers
Beautiful Azaleas flourish along this stately Colonial style home.

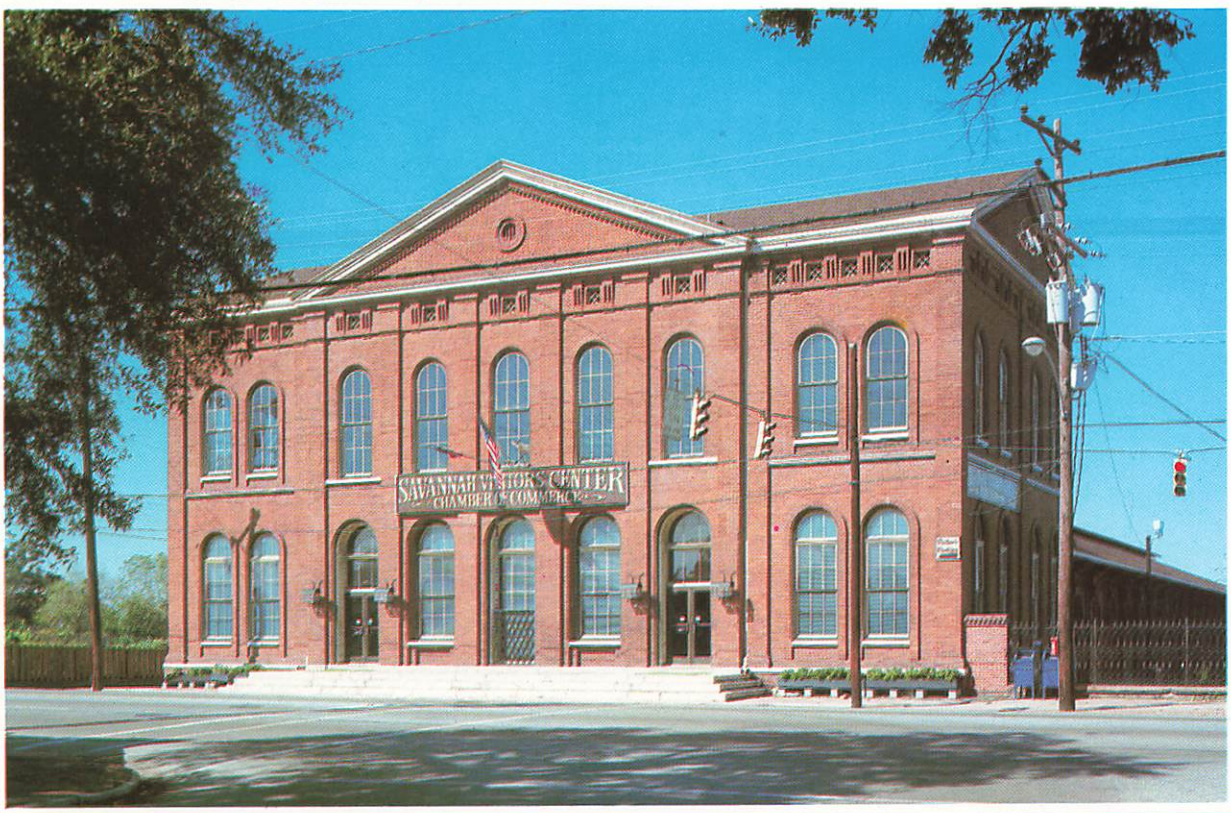
A typical restored home preserved with its original charm.

A city of beautifully restored homes, Savannah has more nationally registered historical sites than any other city in America.

Gingerbread House — Represents Steamboat Gothic style of architecture. Located at 1921 Bull St. Built in the 1890's for a member of the Asendorf family of Savannah.

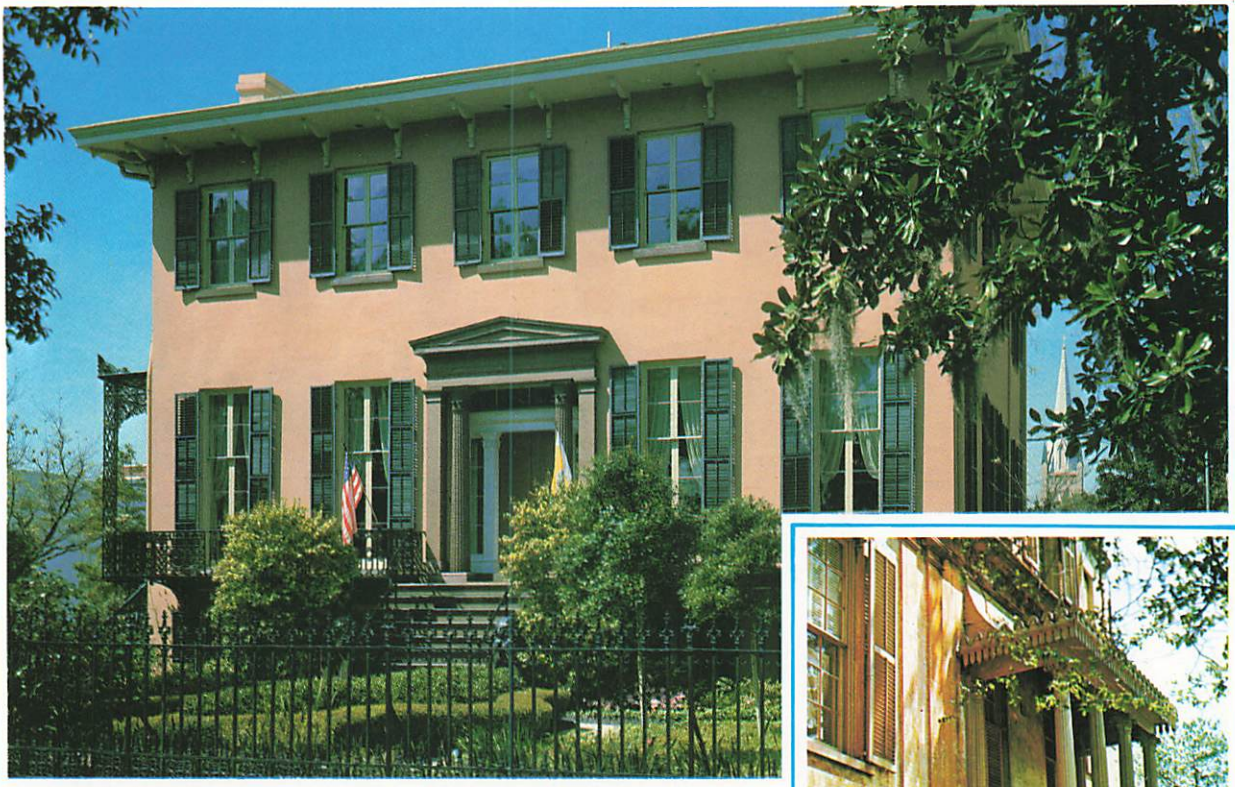
Beautiful Chippewa Square with the spire of Independent Presbyterian Church.

Savannah Visitors Center



The Bull House — one of the many picturesque residential homes found among the oak shaded streets of this historic city.

The Gordon House — Juliette Gordon, known as "Daisy," founder of the Girl Scouts of America, was born in 1860 in this beautiful home, believed to have been designed by William Jay, the famous Savannah architect.

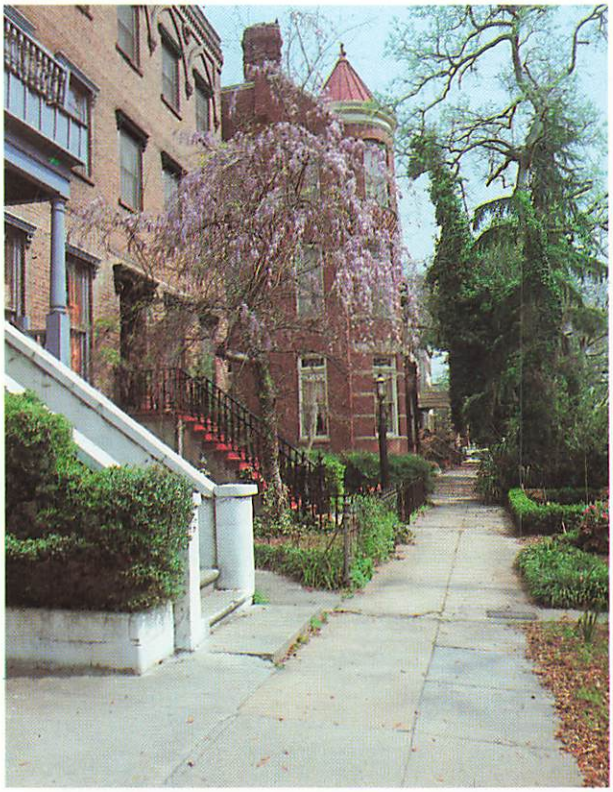


The Colonial Dames House— Located on Abercorn and Macon Streets. Built in 1849 for Andrew Low. Later became home of son William and daughter-in-law Juliette Gordon Low. It is the headquarters of the State Society of the Colonial Dames of America.

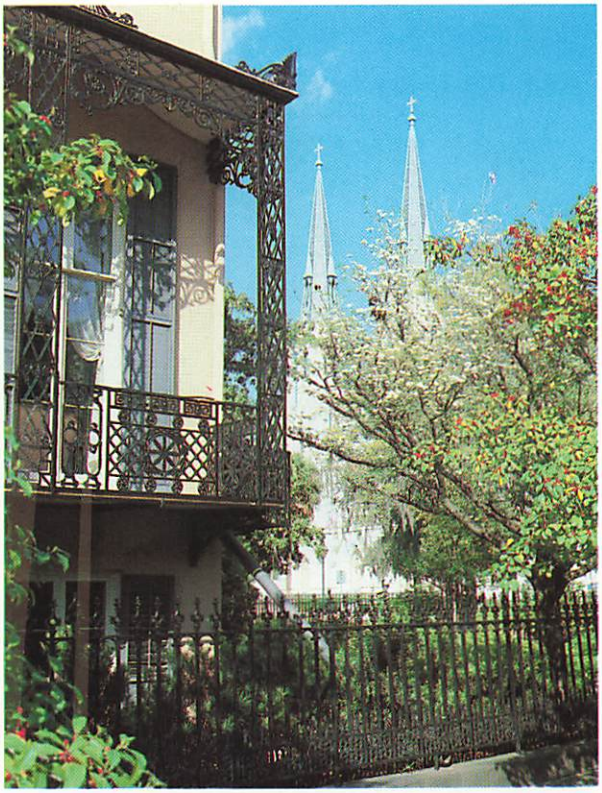
Owens-Thomas House -- Abercorn and State Streets, on Oglethorpe Square. Built in 1816-1819. "America's finest example of English Regency architecture." Designed by William Jay.

The Savannah College of Art & Design

Sherman's Headquarters — General William Tecumseh Sherman ended his march through Georgia at this house which he occupied as his headquarters from December 22, 1864, until February 1, 1865.



Spring abounds on Gaston Street, distinguished by stately old homes; the Oglethorpe Club, and Hodgson Hall, headquarters of Georgia Historical Society, founded in 1839.

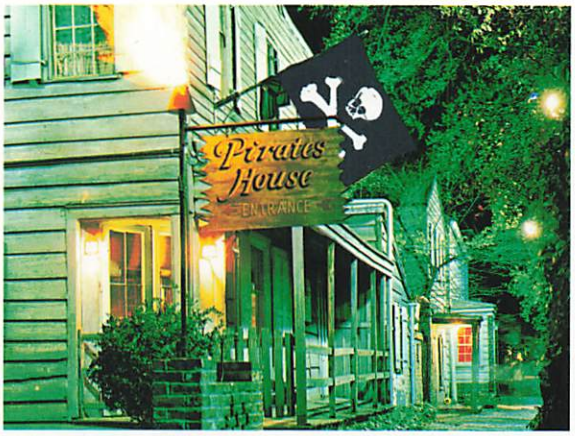


Ornate Lace Ironwork, typical of the work found on many of the Savannah homes. This view shows the Low House with Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in the background.

The Davenport House — This traditional federal syle home was built in 1820 by Isaiah Davenport. His six sons all fought in the Civil War, three with the Union Army and three with the Confederacy. Two of the boys were killed. Fully restored and furnished with elegant period pieces the Davenport House is open to the public with guided tours.

The Pirates' House

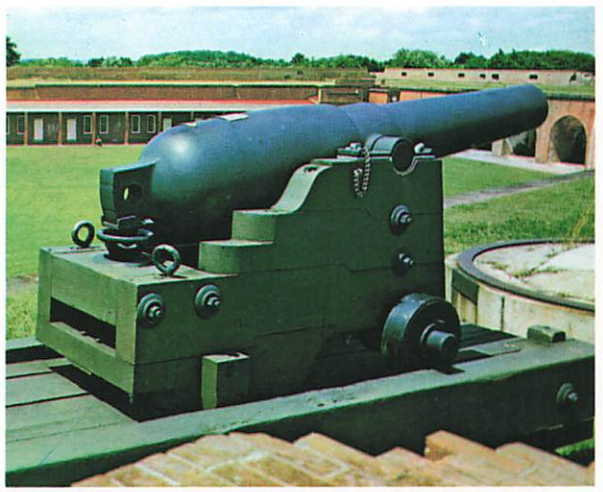
Built in 1754, this quaint and colorful restaurant, located a block from the river, was once a rendezvous for bloodthirsty pirates.

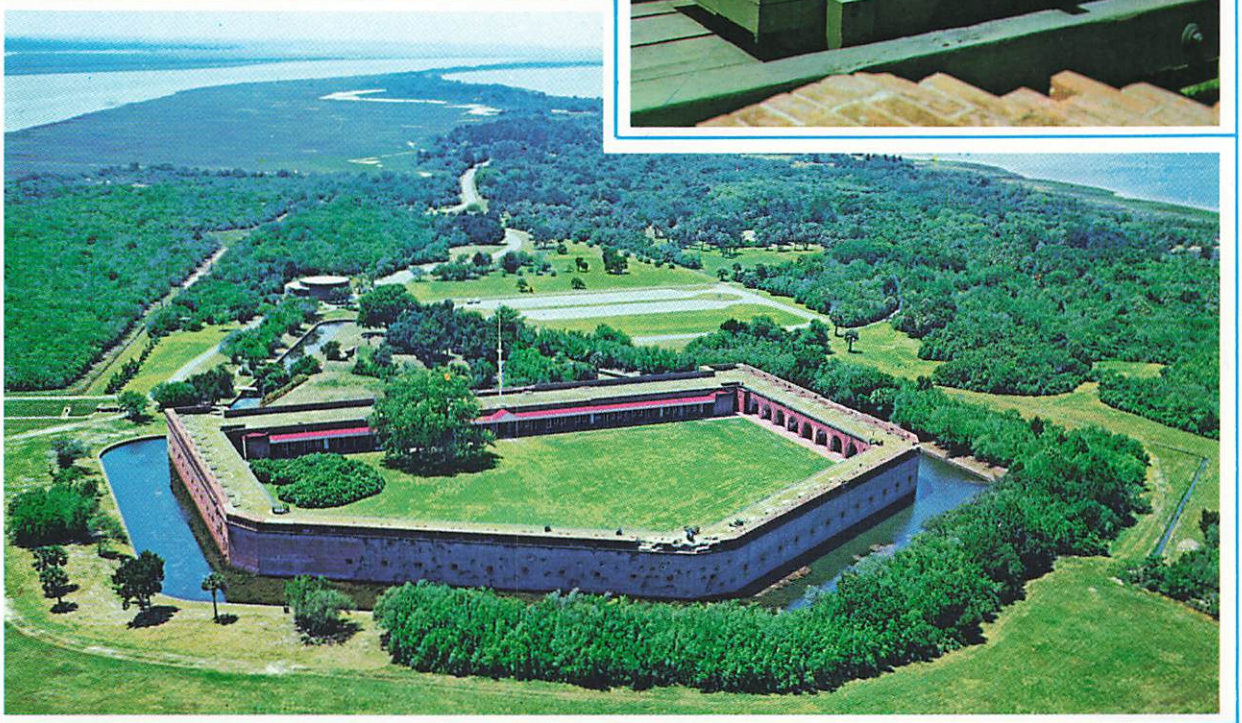


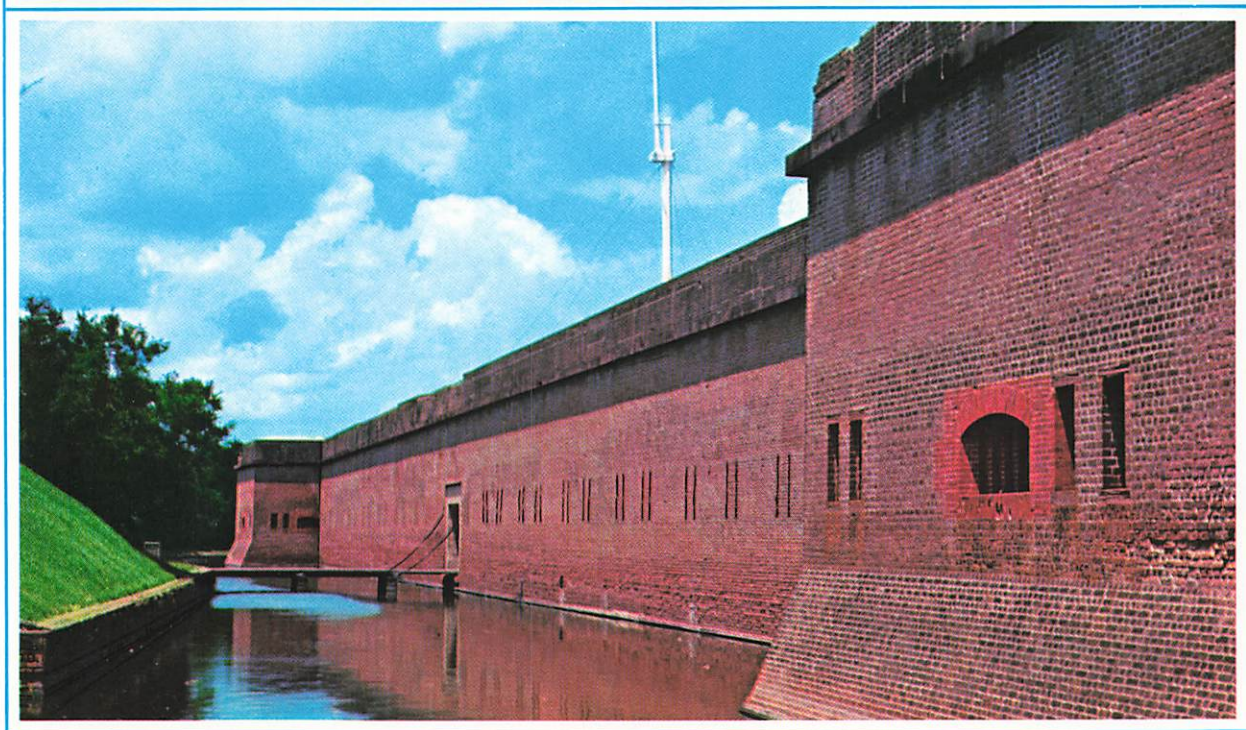
Fort Pulaski

National Monument

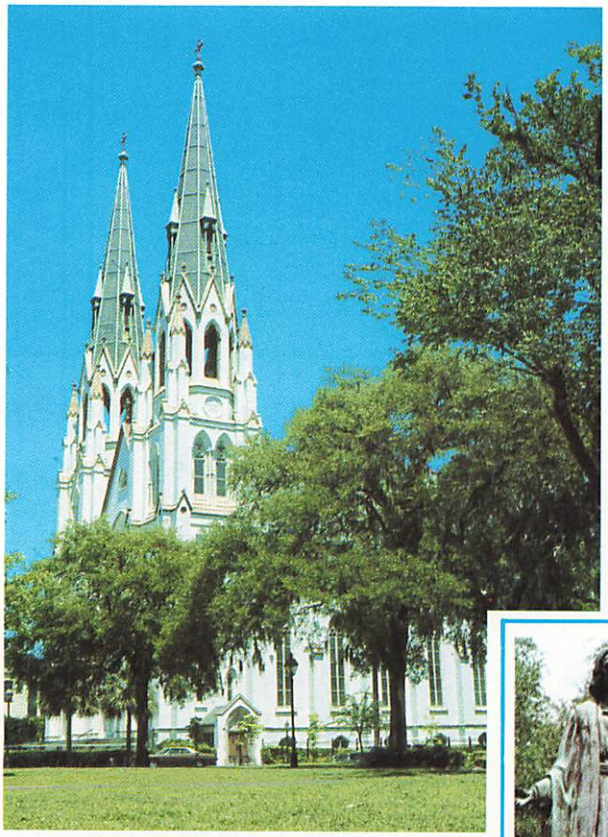
Fort Pulaski's massive walls, twenty years in the building, were pulverized in 1862 by Federal artillerymen using the new rifled cannon. Surrender of the"impregnable" fortress by the Confederates followed, thus ending the era of great brick citadels. The Fort is 17 miles east of Savannah.



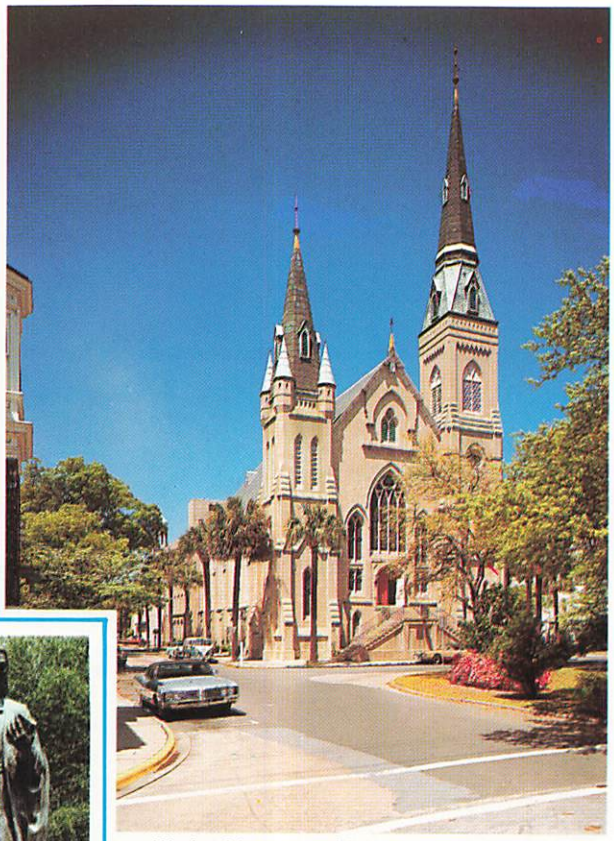




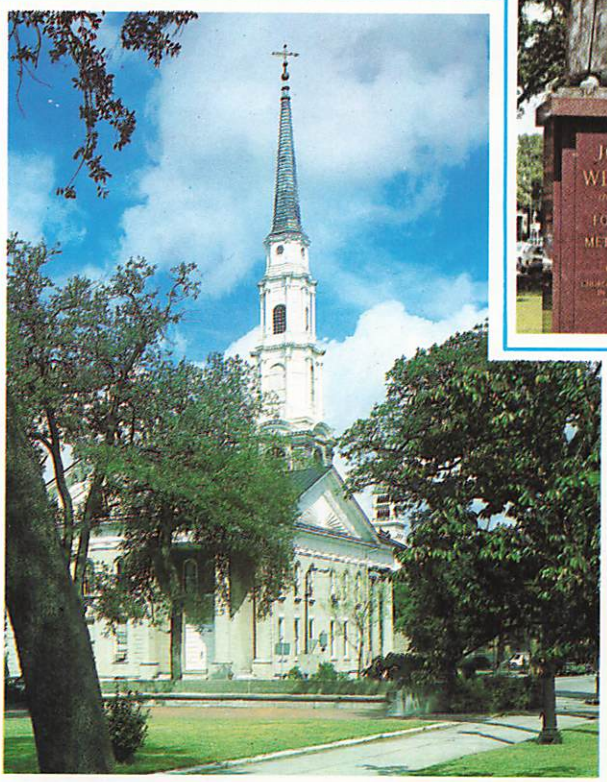
Churches in Savannah



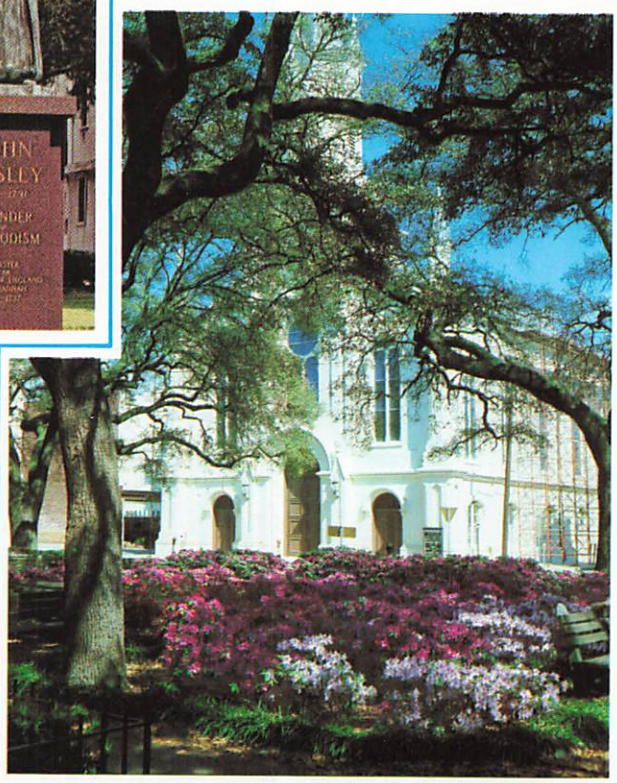
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist



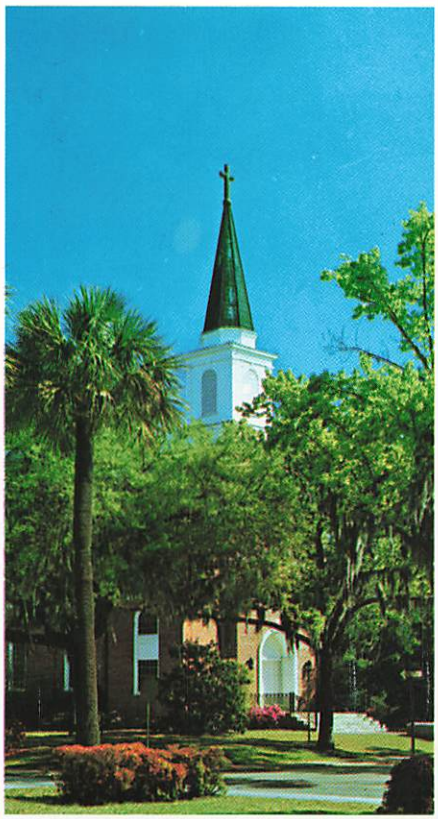
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church



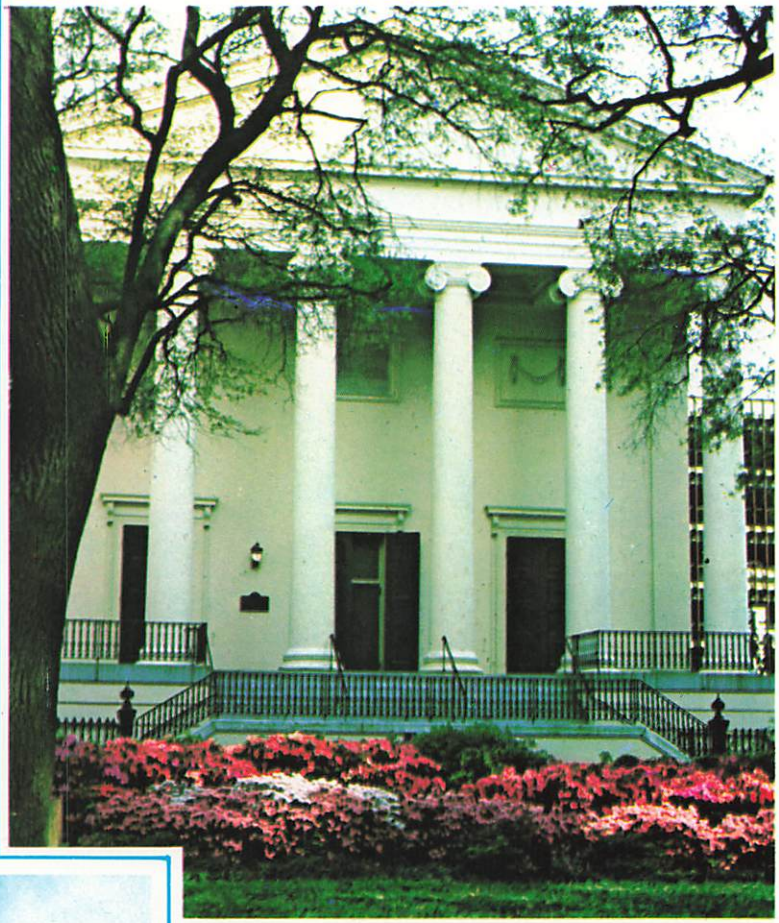
The Independent Presbyterian Church



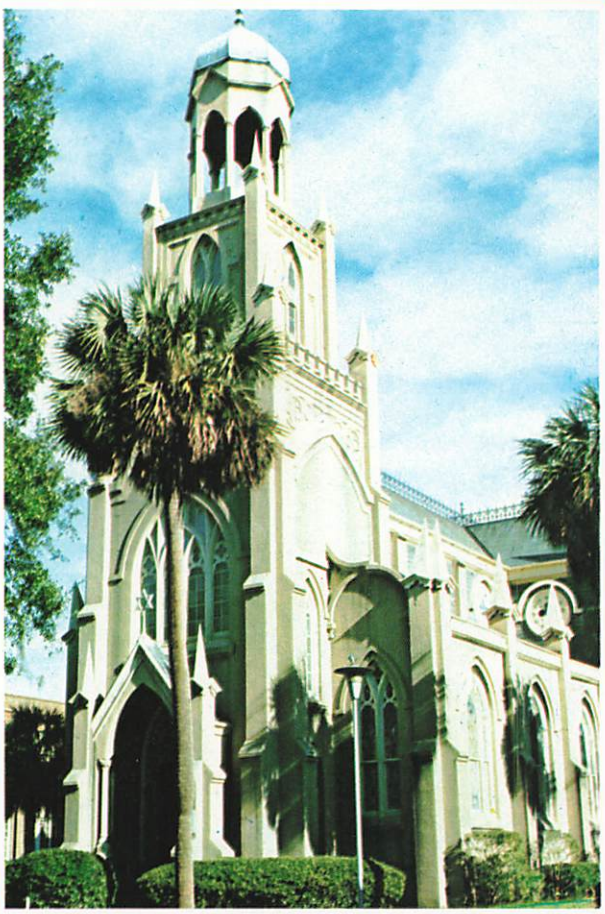
Lutheran Church of the Ascension



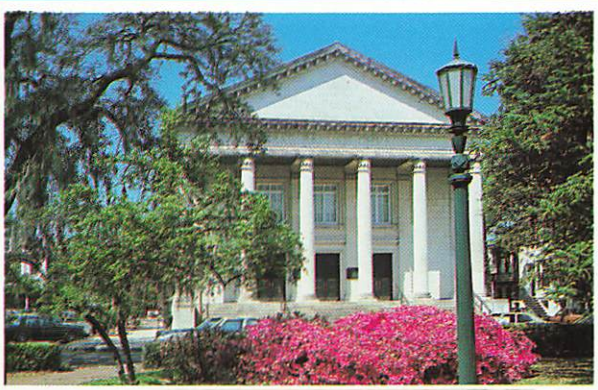
First Christian Church



Christ Episcopal Church



Mickve Israel Temple

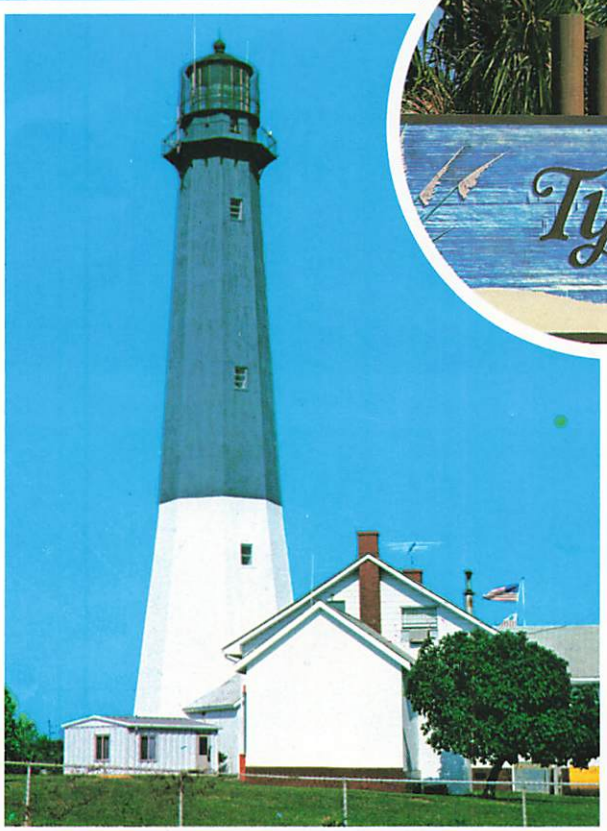


First Baptist Church

First African Baptist Church

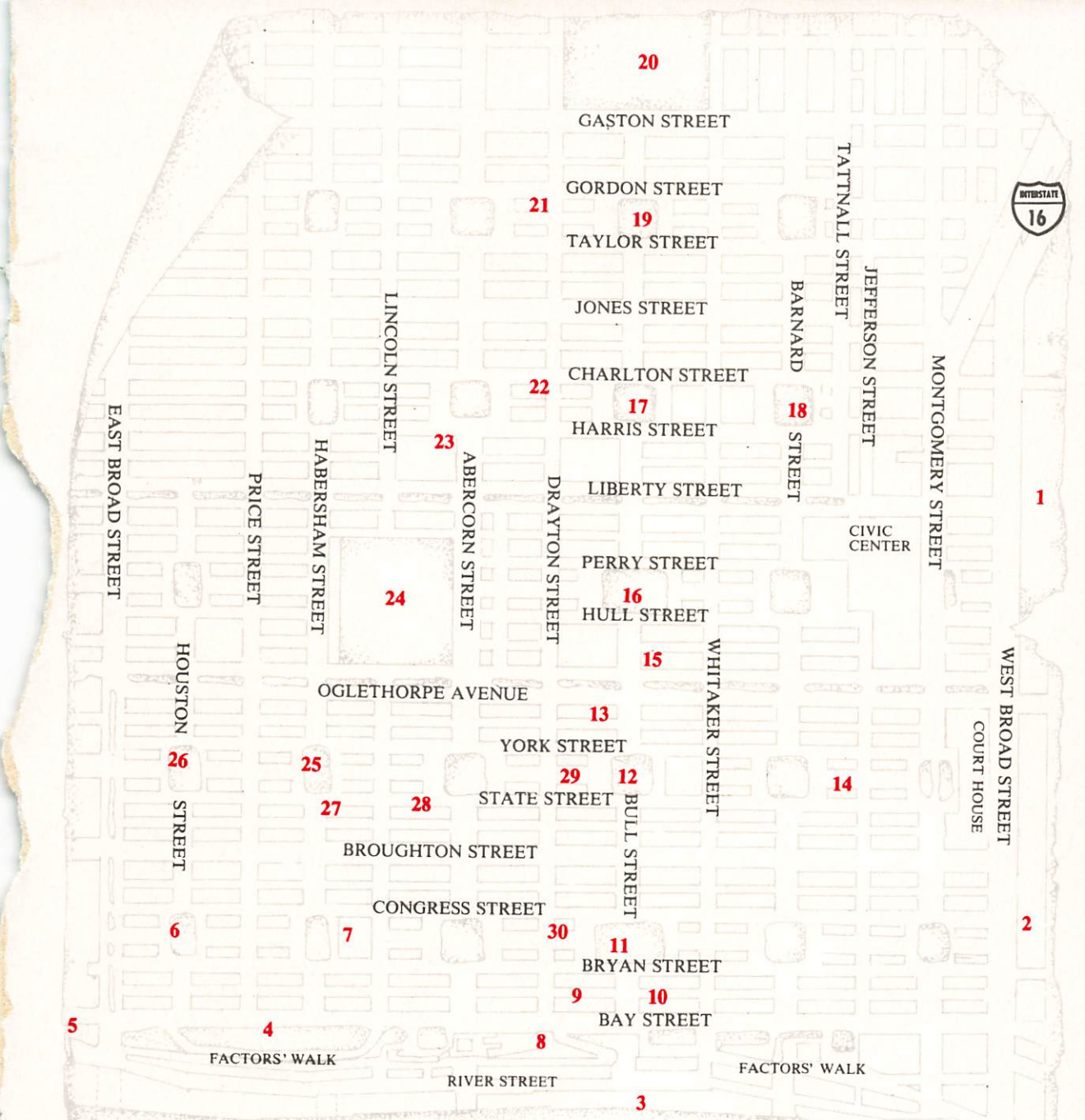
Coastal Savannah

Tybee Beach



Tybee Island Lighthouse

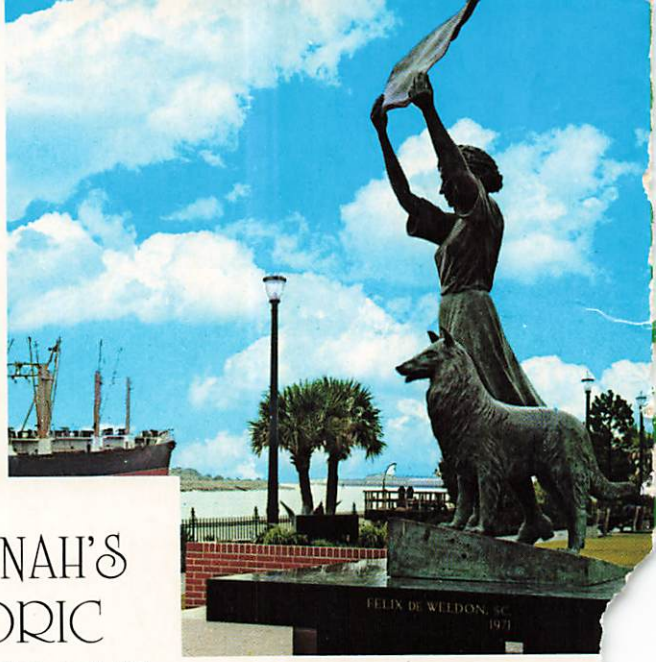
Shrimp Boats



KEY TO HISTORIC SITES

1 Savannah Visitors Center
2 Scarbrough House
3 John P. Rousakis River Front Plaza
4 Emmet Park
5 Fort Wayne & Trustees' Gardens
6 Washington Square
7 Reynolds Square
8 Cotton & Naval Stores Exchange
9 U.S. Customs House
10 City Hall
11 Johnson Square
12 Wright Square
13 Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace
14 Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences
15 Independent Presbyterian Church
16 Chippewa Square
17 Madison Square
18 Pulaski Square
19 Monterey Square
20 Forsyth Park
21 Wesley Monumental Methodist Church
22 Colonial Dames House
23 Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
24 Colonial Park Cemetery
25 Columbia Square
26 Greene Square
27 Davenport House
28 Owens-Thomas House
29 Lutheran Church of the Ascension
30 Christ Episcopal Church

Plastichrome
Printed in Ireland



SAVANNAH'S HISTORIC WATERFRONT